Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

Well it certainly has been a very busy and productive first term and I thank you all once again for your efforts.

Harmony Day - Saturday 22nd March celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Our cultural diversity remains one of our greatest strengths; and it’s at the heart of who we are. At Leda, preparations are underway as we celebrate 15 amazing years of Harmony Day.

This year on Friday 20th March, Leda will be celebrating the 15th anniversary of Harmony Day in Australia – a day where we encourage the motto that “Everyone belongs”. Our fabulous P&C and staff will be hosting a Harmony Day Breakfast on the oval on this day in acknowledgement of our school’s rich cultural diversity. We will ask also that everyone wear something orange in honour of our special day. Stay tuned for the Harmony Day flyer which will provide all the details.

This week, on Wednesday 4th March, teachers and students recognised World Read Aloud Day, bringing attention to the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. This was an awareness day advocating for literacy as a right that belongs to all people, celebrated around the world annually on the first Wednesday in March. World Read Aloud Day motivates children, teens, and adults worldwide to celebrate the power of words, especially those words that are shared from one person to another.

Furthermore this day coincides with Dr Seuss’s birthday on 2nd March.

Ms Durham - Principal

Dear Parents,

I would like to offer a huge thank you to the parents and community members who attended our first School Board meeting on 19th February. Our School Board Chairperson is Fleur Batchelor and I look forward to working closely with Fleur and the rest of the Board as we all bring together our experience as parents and educators at the school along with the views and context of the wider school community to improve student outcomes.

We are always looking for new P&C members from our Education Support Centre parent body – our next meeting is on Wednesday 25th March at 8.30am. I do hope that you can make it.

Speech sessions for the children will commence on Monday next week and I am in discussion with our Speech Therapist regarding possible parent workshops. If you would be interested in attending a workshop designed to help you maximise speech opportunities for your child please call into the office and lodge your interest with Hayley or Natalie.

Is your child receiving therapy supports through Therapy Focus? If so, you could be eligible for funding. Please call into the office to collect a funding application from either Hayley or Natalie.

It’s not okay for your child to stay away from school – unless they have a valid reason. On your child’s return to school following an absence you are required to advise us as to the reason for their absence. Continued absences without a valid reason will be referred to Regional Office for further investigation.

ESC Principal - Mrs Howorth
As an Independent Public School we have a newly formed School Board. Our first meeting for 2015 will be held on Friday 27th March at 3.30pm. I look forward to publishing the pertinent issues raised in the subsequent newsletter.

Congratulations to Miss Eddy and the students of Room 16 for hosting our first assembly for the year. They did their best trying to convince us they would be doing nothing at all for the day as they sang ‘The Lazy Song by Bruno Mars’ resplendent in their pyjamas. Well done!

Congratulations to our Honour Certificate winners: Ariella, Rexy, Maddison and Americus ESC, Amelia and Olivia Rm 1, Ally and Dylan Rm 2, Nikiesha and Taj Rm 8, Cindy and Jorja Rm 11, Victor and Akeira Rm 12, Abbie and Sawyer Rm 13, Romeo and Indianna Rm 14, Nathan and Callum Rm 16, Brock Rm 21, Marianne and Ryley Rm 23, Ambrose and Jade Rm 24, Jacinta and Machel Rm 25.

Phys Ed - Rm 2, LOTE - Rm 13, Library - Rm 16, Music - Rm 8, Dance/Drama - Rm 21, Deputy Good Workers Award - Callum Rm 16 and Jack Rm 25, The Golden Microscope Award (Science) - Rm 21.

Room 25 will host our next assembly on Friday 13th March.

The Bremen Town
Performance incursion has been rescheduled to Thursday 19th March. A reminder to pay your $4.50 to the class teacher as soon as possible.

Year 2 students will be holding an icy pole fundraiser day on Friday 13th March. The icy poles will be available at recess from the undercover area 50c each. All money raised will go towards their Term 2 excursion.

ESC Cake Stall
Thank you to everyone who supported the cake stall on Tuesday. Leda ESC raised a total of $260 which will go toward the end of term excursion for their students.

From the sale of the Valentines Day roses, Leda P & C collected a tidy profit of $87. Thank you to everyone who purchased a flower.

Unwanted Clothing Items Needed!!
E’Co Australia Pty Ltd “Tri-aid - not aid” programme. Leda Schools are helping those in need once again. Please check through your household for unwanted clothing, linen, shoes and bags. We have a clothing recycle collection bin located near the bike cage. These items go straight to the 3rd world countries that need it!! Leda Schools will benefit by receiving money in return for your donations.
The first annual P&C meeting was held this week and I would like to thank everyone who attended. Our committee for 2015 has been now been elected. Remember it is never too late to be involved in your school’s P&C and I encourage your participation. Please note that our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 25th March at 8.45am in the staffroom.

On Tuesday, the Councillors and Faction Captains travelled to Woodman Point to encourage self-confidence, leadership skills, resilience and team work.
Speech, Language and Development
Parent Information Session
Tuesday 10th March 1-2.30pm
Child & Parent Centre Calista
Harlow Rd (Next to Calista Primary School)
For families with children aged 2-3 years, useful information and advice about: toddlers typical speech, development and milestones, tips to improve communication, encouraging talking, technology and language development.
Free crèche available. Afternoon tea provided. Bookings are essential - Ph 9367 0960.